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Brief History

of the family of

John Henry Niewoehner I

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Compiled 1928 by

J. HENRY E. BODE

RICHMOND, INDIANA

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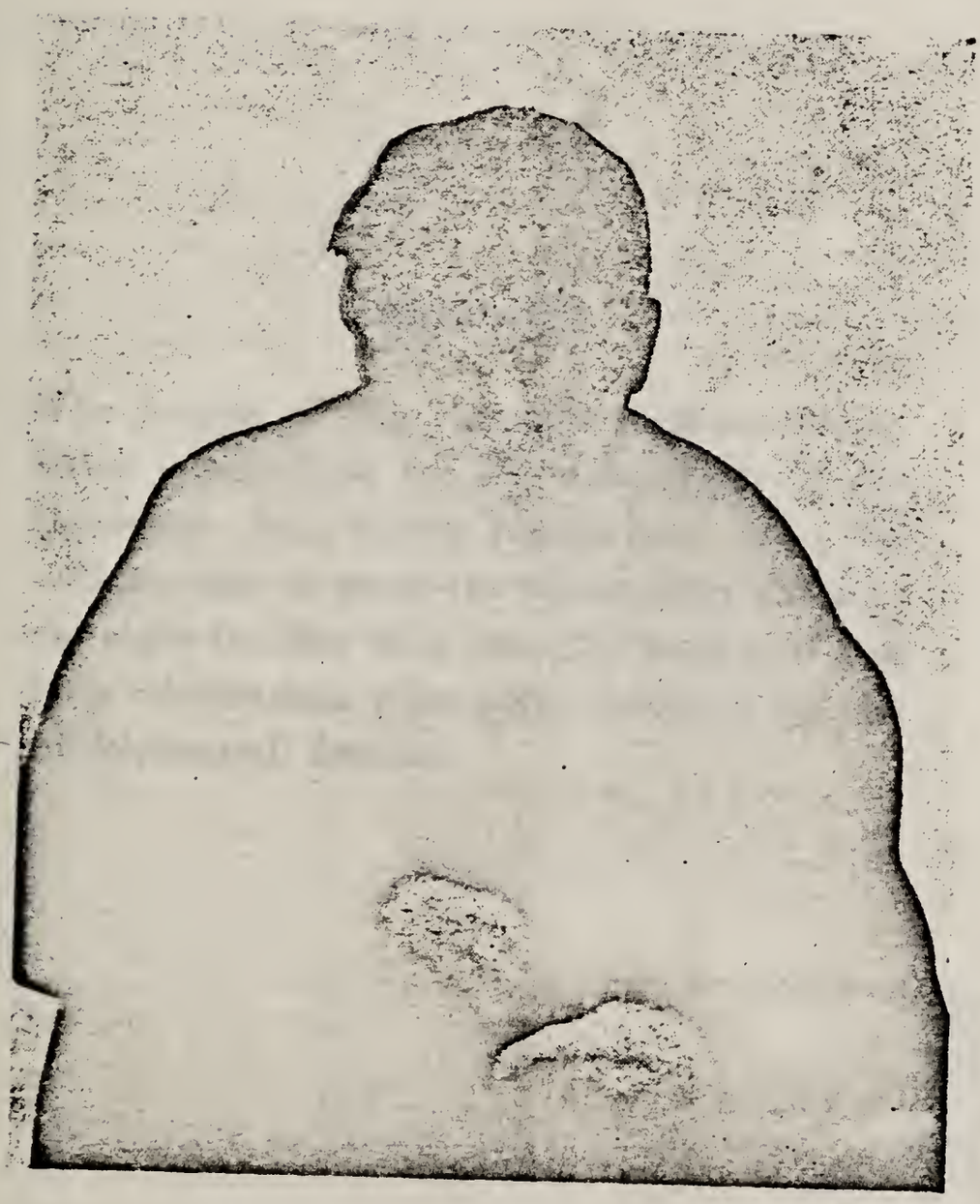

John Henry Niewoehner I

PREFACE

The purpose of this chronicle is to provide reliable information for the descendants of our Grandsire, John Henry Niewoehner, 1st. We will attempt to show the Niewoehner strain of the eight families who form the basis of a very large relationship, principally located in the city of Richmond, Indiana.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF

JOHN HENRY NIEWOEHNER, 1st.

Your committee, appointed to make necessary arrangements for the first annual reunion of the "Niewoehner Family", and their descendants, believes that the younger generations would appreciate a Family History of their ancestors for future reference, and we have made an effort to accomplish this to the best of our ability.

Although somewhat at a disadvantage, due to the fact that a fire destroyed the Parsonage at Oldendorf, Hanover, Germany, in the year 1817, where many of the records pertaining to the Niewoehner family were lost, we find that John Christopher Niewoehner was born in 1779. He was married to Margaretha Elizabeth Schafer, vor dem Felde, and they were the parents of John Henry Niewoehner, who was born on the 29th day of March, 1810, during the time of Germany's deepest humiliation, when his native land was completely dominated by the French, and Napoleon Bonaparte was in the height of his glory.

With justifiable pride we point to the fact that our Grandfather, who had only a meager education, was an exceptionally bright and intelligent man. The schooling at that time was not what it is today. The people were poor and their children were given more instruction how to work to keep the wolf from the door, and at a tender age were compelled to spend more time at work than in the schools.

The fine art of reading, writing and arithmetic was a knowledge limited to only a few and John Henry Niewoehner was often called upon by his friends and neighbors when a letter was to be read, written or answered. Problems of finance and arithmetic were also left for him to solve.

As a young man he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a Wooden Shoe Maker, and he worked at this vocation until he reached a ripe old age. He taught his three sons the art of converting a block of wood into serviceable foot wear, and they also worked at this trade for many years.

When he became of military age he served with the Infantry in the Army of the King of Hanover. That probably accounts for his hostile attitude toward the Prussian Government at the time of the annexation of Hanover to Prussia. His favorite expression was, "der Preusse hat Hanover gestohlen."

Shortly after he was absolved of his duties as a soldier, he was married to Katherina Elizabeth Schafer and established a home in Oberholsten, a hamlet near the village of Oldendorf. Here he attended church and sent his children to school.

Nine children were born to this union in the following order: Katherina Elizabeth, Caspar Henry, Marie Gertrudt, Elsbeth Margaretha, Katherina Marie, Marie Elizabeth, John Frederick, one son who died in infancy, and William Henry.

He lived to see all of his surviving children married and have families of their own. He was devoted to his family and church. He died in June in the year of 1885 at the age of seventy-five years and two months. Survivors were, one married sister, three sons, four daughters, five sons-in-law, three daughters-in-law, and many grandchildren. We will show how the many descendants of our Grandsire happened to migrate to America and locate in the city of Richmond, Indiana.

We will make an explanation by showing how the children of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, married, not in the order they were born, but in the order they came to the United States of America.

JOHN FREDERICK NIEWOEHNER BRANCH

John Frederick, their seventh child was born on the 7th day of July, 1852. He was married to Katherina Marie Crome and they made their home in Wissingen, a hamlet near the village of Schlederhausen, in the jurisdiction of Osnabruck. Their first child was born there. Uncle Fred, as he was generally known, young and ambitious was thoroughly dissatisfied and disgusted with the economic conditions that existed in Germany at that time.

Serfdom had just been abolished some thirty years prior, very much against the wish of the Landowners, the latter, as a rule did all they could oppressive to the wage earners, who were at their mercy. John Frederick did not only disapprove of such tactics, but never hesitated to speak his mind on the

subject, and this often brought him into bitter conflict with the Landowners.

From information that we have, it seems that a young man by the name of Kirchoff, whose parents lived in Wissingen, who had established himself in the State of Arkansas, and who was home visiting his people, first interested him in America by drawing a picture of the U. S. A. as the "Land of the Free". This appealed to John Frederick, he first planned to accompany Kirchoff to Arkansas, but later Pemberville near Toledo, Ohio, and Richmond, Indiana were given consideration. Richmond was finally decided upon, due to the fact that Mrs. John Frederick Niewoehner had an uncle living there by the name of Caspar Aring, and should he be among the living, he might be of some assistance to get properly located.

We wish to call attention to what it meant for this man to leave all his kin folks and start on a journey of some four thousand miles, with a wife, and a baby in arms. They knew not what the future had in store for them, but they were determined. They left Germany, and landed in Baltimore, Maryland, on the 21st day of May, 1880, coming direct to Richmond, Indiana. Here they found that Caspar Aring was still living, although old and feeble.

John Frederick at once established himself, securing employment and buying a home a year later. He was instrumental in having all of his sisters and brothers; except one sister, to locate here by giving them assistance by advice and otherwise.

September 28, 1881, the first of Niewoehner blood born in this country was John Henry Niewoehner, 2nd, who is rightfully acting as the chairman of the first Niewoehner reunion held in Bealview Park, this 24th day of June, 1928.

Later the following children were born to John Frederick and his wife nee Crome, William H., Lewis C., Emma, Amalia, Martha, Frieda, Adolph W., Harry E., and Arnold.

Mary, their oldest child was born in Germany on the 22nd day of May, 1879. She married William Blomeyer. They have no children. John H. married Ida Eikemeyer. They have three children, Harold F., Florence E., Robert L., and Lois Ann, who died in fancy.

William H. married Mary King. They have two children, Ruth and Betty. When the mother died, William H. later married Margaret Karcher. They have two children,

Richard and Virgina. Lewis C. Married Mary Bennet. They have two children. Myra and Irvin. A son, Bennet Frederick died in infancy. Emma is unmarried. Amalia married Richard Holzapfel. They have three children, Martha Ruth, Lois Ann, and Janice. Martha is unmarried. Frieda died in infancy. Adolph W. is unmarried. Harry E. is unmarried. Arnold died in infancy.

John Frederick, the pioneer of the Niewoehner Family in this country died. October 27, 1927, at the age of seventy-five years, three months and twenty days.

KATHERINA ELIZABETH NIEWOEHNER-BODE BRANCH

Katherina Elizabeth was born on the 18th day of May, 1847, was the fifth child of John Henry Niewoehner nee Schafer, she was married to Ernest Adoplh Bode, the youngest son of Eberhardt Bode and his wife nee Nieman.

During the early married life they lived in Wissingen, a hamlet near Schlederhausen and Osnabruck. During their stay in Wissingen four children were born to them in the following order: John Henry Eberhardt, Anna Marie, Frederick William, and Mary Elizabeth.

Her brother, John Frederick having settled in America, pointed out to them the advantages of living in the U. S. A. They wrote him for assistance to make it possible for them to migrate. He promptly responded, and the fourteenth day of August, 1881, saw them aboard the steamer bound for Baltimore, where they landed on the 30th of August, arriving in Richmond, Indiana, September 1st, 1881.

In 1882 their youngest daughter, Mary Elizabeth died. In 1883 Lillian Katherine was born, who died in 1885. It was not the lot of Katherina Marie Niewoehner Bode to attain old age, she died on the 13th day of October, 1884, at the age of thirty-seven years and four months, survived by the husband, two sons and two daughters.

Ernest Adolph Bode remarried in 1886, to Anna Pille, a widow. He died on the 2nd day of July, 1927, at the age of seventy-five years and six months.

John Henry Eberhardt Bode, their oldest son was born on the 17th day of August, 1873 in Germany, came to Ameri-

ca with his parents in 1881, was married to Mary Fredericke Reinhardt, three sons and two daughters were born to them. Earnest A. Bode, was born April 15. 1895, and was married to Mabel Knopf. They have two children, Beverly Gene, and Junior. They reside in Los Angeles, California.

Lillian, their oldest daughter, died at the age of twenty, unmarried.

Edna was born on the 16th day of August. 1900, she was married to James Norton and has one daughter, Annita Jane. They reside in Long Beach, California.

Ervin C. H. was born on November 6th, 1902. He married Mildred Wagner. They have one daughter, Barbara, and reside in Long Beach, California.

Arthur J. H. was born on the 24th day of August, 1904, and was married to Helen Bullerdick. They reside in Richmond, Indiana.

Anna Marie Bode, the second child of Katherina Elizabeth, was born in Germany and married Edgar Stephenson. They had one daughter, Irene, who died in infancy.

Anna Marie, after her second marriage to E. C. Taylor, located in Bothel, Washington, where she died in 1925, at the age of fifty years. Survived by the husband.

Frederick Wm. Bode, the third child of Katherina Elizabeth, was born in Germany on the 16th day of May, 1877. He married Minnie La Fewre. Four children were born to them, two sons, and two daughters. Minnie Bode died when their four children were quite young and in due time Frederick Wm. married May Robinson. One son, Athelton, was born to them. Donald and Athelton died in infancy. Mildred, their oldest daughter, married Louis Bond. They reside in Richmond, Ind., and have no children. Dorothy and Morris are unmarried and live with their parents.

CASPAR HENRY NIEWOEHNER BRANCH

Caspar Henry, the second child of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife nee Schafer, was born on the 28th day of April, 1837, and was married to Ellen Westrup, who was born on the 27th day of January 1841. Seven children were born to them, five sons and two daughters.

Caspar Henry and his family lived in the hamlet of Jeggen, near Osnabruck, until 1882. He was the third one

of the John Henry Niewoehner Family that left Germany. He arrived in Richmond, Indiana, in the month of August, 1882. On June the 29th, 1906, Ellen, the wife of Caspar Henry, died after a lingering illness at the age of sixty-five years, five months and two days. Caspar Henry died on the 20th day of October, 1913 at the age of seventy-six year, eight months and twenty-three days.

Mary, their oldest child married Henry Helmich. Seven children, six sons and one daughter ,were born to them, all in this country. Henry Helmich died in 1927.

John, their first born, married Lena Drathing, and they have three children, Elise, Irene and Robert, all unmarried. Albert and Adam Helmich deceased.

George Helmich, the third child, married Jennie Blackford. They have no children.

Walter Helmich, deceased. Edith Helmich, the fifth child, is unmarried. Willard Helmich, the sixth child, married Henrietta Collins, and they have two children, Betty and Joan.

Ella, the second child of Caspar Henry and his wife, nee Westrup, married Henry Pilgrim, and three sons and two daughters were born to them. Harry married Florence Sturm. They have one daughter, Martha. Olga married Albert Frauman, and they have one daughter, Ruth Ellen. Raymond married Doris Gibbs. They reside in Oakland, California, and have no children. Ruby married Walter Eikemeyer, and they have one daughter, Mary Ellen. Howard, the youngest is unmarried and resides in Oakland, California.

Henry Niewoehner, the third child of Caspar Henry and his wife, nee Westrup, married Katherine Aring. They have two sons, Roy, the first born, who is unmarried. Carl, the second child, married Reba Kohlstedt, and they have one son, Carl, Jr. Henry Niewoehner died suddenly in 1927.

Adam Niewoehner, the fourth child of Caspar Henry and his wife, nee Westrup, married Katherine Hoos. Five sons and one daughter were born to them. Earl, the first born married Margaret Ockleman. They reside in Dayton, Ohio, and have no children.

Everett, the second child, married Irene Frauman, and they have no children .

Russel, the third child, married Thelma Murph. They reside in Dayton, Ohio, and have two children, Mardella and

Jackie. Opal, the only daughter, married Vernon Murphy. They live near Whitewater, Indiana and have no children.

Orville and Glen are unmarried and live with their parents, near Whitewater, Indiana.

Fred Niewoehner and William Niewoehner, sons of Caspar Henry and his wife, nee Westrup, died in infancy.

Edward Niewoehner, the youngest child of Caspar Henry and his wife, nee Westrup, married Alma Poland. They reside in Dayton, Ohio, and have no children.

MARIE GERTRUDT NIEWOEHNER-PILGRIM BRANCH

Marie Gertrudt, the third child of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, was born July 9th, 1841. She was married to Clamour L. Pilgrim, and they lived in Haltern, near Belm and Osnabruck, until June, 1883, when they came to Richmond, Indiana, and resided there until their death.

To this union eight children were born, one dying in infancy. Seven of their children were born in Germany. The youngest was born in Richmond. Clamour L. Pilgrim, the husband, was born September 3th, 1840, and died July 25, 1913, at the age of seventy-two years, ten months, and twenty-one days. Marie Gertrudt died April 20, 1913, at the age of eighty-one years, nine months, and eleven days. Henry E. Pilgrim, their first born, married Mary Heitbrink, deceased. Three daughters were born to them, Ellen and Marie, both unmarried, and Leonora, who married Joseph Schwab. They have no children and reside in Hamilton, Ohio.

Gustave A. Pilgrim studied to be a Lutheran Minister, and has a parish at Morris, Minn. He was married to Lilly Hunziker, deceased. To this union, three children were born, Walter, Paulus and Gertrudt. Gustave A., after the death of his first wife, later married Anna Matter, and they reside in Morris, Minn.

Elizabeth Pilgrim, deceased, was married to Charles H. Hirschfield, and one son Edgar A., was born to them. He was married to Frieda Kehlenbrink. They have one daughter, Lois.

After the death of Elizabeth Pilgrim Hirschfield, Mary Pilgrim, the fourth child of Marie Gertrudt and Clamour L.

Pilgrim, married Charles H. Hirschfield, and five children were born to them. Leona, their oldest, married Edwin Wickemeyer, and they have one son, Kenneth. Russel Hirschfield died in infancy. Oran, Hilbert and Reta are unmarried.

Herman F. Pilgrim, the fifth child of Marie Gertrudt, married Minnie Duning. They have two unmarried sons, Garth C., and Norman W.

Fred J. Pilgrim, the fifth child of Marie Gertrudt, married Emma Conrad. They have one child, Mary, and reside in Detroit, Michigan.

Lewis G. Pilgrim, the youngest son of Marie Gertrudt, married Dorothy Tischbein, and they have two children, Lewis, Jr., and Glenna. They also reside in Detroit.

WILLIAM H. NIEWOEHNER BRANCH

William Henry, the ninth child born to John Henry Niwoehner, and his wife, nee Schafer, was born June 18th, 1856, and was married to Katherina Kransiek, who was born April 9th, 1851.

To this union eight children were born. They resided in Germany until 1890, when they came to America and settled in Richmond, Indiana. Later they moved on a farm in Northern Wisconsin and now reside in Preble County, Ohio.

Henry, their oldest son married Rosa Miller, deceased. Three children were born to them, Herbert, unmarried; Bertha married Leslie Langlois, and they have one son, Leslie, Jr.; Eunice married Clarence Augustine, and they have one daughter, Lois Rose. Henry Niewoehner, after the death of his wife, married Minnie Siek. They have one daughter, Esther, who is unmarried. Henry Niewoehner later married Clara Ukes, and they have no chilren.

Herman, the second child of Wm. Henry and his wife nee Kransiek, died in infancy.

William, the third child, is unmarried and lives with his parents in Preble County, Ohio.

Frederick, the fourth child of Wm. Henry and his wife nee Kransiek, died in infancy.

Mary, the fifth child of Wm. Henry and his wife, nee Kransiek, married Ferdinand Hintze, and they have no children.

Ella, the sixth child of Wm. Henry and his wife, nee Kransiek, married William Daniels. They have eight children,

Vernon, Helen, Viola, Rozella, June, Emma Jean, Ronald died in infancy, and Raymond.

Elizabeth, the seventh child of Wm. Henry and his wife, nee Kransiek, married Harry Gibson, and they have one son, Everett.

Albert, the eighth child of Wm. Henry and his wife, nee Kransiek, died in infancy.

William Henry Niewoehner, the only surviving child of the nine children that were born to John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, is now living with his wife in Preble County, Ohio, and has reached the age of seventy-two years, and is enjoying fairly good health, surrounded by his children and grandchildren.

KATHERINA ELIZABETH NIEWOEHNER-EGGERT BRANCH

Katherina Elizabeth, the oldest child of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, was born on the 17th day of December, 1835. She was married to Wm. Eggert, who was born on the 10th day of October, 1835. Nine children were born to this union, in Germany.

They came to America, arriving in Richmond, Indiana, on the 22nd day of May, 1891. William Eggert, the father, died on September 18th, 1902, at the age of sixty-seven years, two months and eight days. Katherina Elizabeth Eggert died in April, 1916, at the age of eighty years and four months.

Elizabeth, the oldest daughter of Katherina Elizabeth, was married to Henry Moeller, and died in 1916 at the age of fifty-six years, leaving no children.

Katherina, deceased, the second child of Katherina Elizabeth, married Gerhardt Wiesehahn. They came to America in 1891. Eight children were born to them.

Elizabeth, the first born to Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert, married Henry Nordsiek, deceased. They have three unmarried daughters, Marie, Helena and Henrietta.

William Wiesehahn, the second child of Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert, died in infancy.

Harry, the third child of Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert, married Rosa Kuehn, and they have two children, Florence and Paul.

Fred, the fourth child of Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert,

married Selma Rosa. They have two children Ruth and James.

Marie, the fifth child of Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert, died in infancy.

Helena, Agatha, and Margaretha Wiesehahn, daughters of Katherina Wiesehahn, nee Eggert, are unmarried.

Karolina, the third child born to Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, was married to Henry Tiemeyer. She came to America in 1890. Five children were born to them. William and Emma are unmarred: Edwin married Mary Adams, and they reside in Los Angeles, California: Howard and Edith are unmarried.

Maria, the fourth child of Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, was married to Fred A. Hartman, and nine children were born to them. Emma, their oldest child, married Elmer Shute, and they have three children, Mabel, Edith and Harold. Clara, the second child, married Henry Becker and they have no children. Elizabeth, the third child, married Cecil Hilling. They have two children, Richard and Grace.

Elmer, the fourth child, married Nellie Keyes, and they have one son, Robert. Paul, Oscar, Frieda, Albert and Bertha are unmarried.

Henry, the fifth child born to Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, married Mary Gildenhaar, and they have two unmarried children, Walter and Lorena. Henry came to America on October 10, 1890, and has since resided in Richmond, Indiana.

Fred, the sixth child of Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, came to America, October 10, 1890. He was married to Elizabeth Reis, deceased. They have one daughter, unmarried. Father and daughter reside in Canton, Ohio.

Herman and Anna Eggert, the seventh and eighth children of Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, died in infancy.

William Eggert, the ninth child of Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, came to America with his parents in 1891. He was married to Martha Tiemeyer. They have four children, William, Richard, Raymond and Florence.

August, the tenth child of Katherina Elizabeth Eggert, nee Niewoehner, died in infancy.

MARIA ELIZABETH NIEWOEHNER-KAUPER BRANCH

Maria Elizabeth, the sixth child of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, born January 4th, 1850, was married to Frederick Kauper, who was born September 21, 1851. They lived in Germany until 1892, when they came to America and settled in Richmond, Indiana.

To this union ten children were born. Maria Elizabeth died February 6, 1917, at the age of sixty-seven years, one month and two days. Frederick Kauper, the husband, died February 22, 1926, at the age of seventy-four years five months and one day.

Frederick J. Kauper married Mary C. Tubesing, and they have eight children. Willard, their oldest, married Corine Schneider. They have one daughter, Mary Ellen. Corine Kauper, Arthur Kauper, Carl Kauper, Paul Kauper, Marie Kauper, Ruth Kauper and Ezra Kauper are unmarried and reside in Richmond, Indiana.

Henry Kauper, the second child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, married Bertha Rosa, deceased. Four children were born to them. Roland and Herbert died in infancy; Ralph and Frederick reside with their father.

Mary Kauper, the third child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, died when a young lady, unmarried.

Minnie and Elizabeth Kauper were twin sisters, being the fourth and fifth children born to Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner. Minnie married Claude Addleman. They have no children. Elizabeth married Charles Kulhman. They have one child, Charles.

William C., the sixth child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, married Emma Koehring. To them, six children were born, Robert, Richard who died in infancy, Edward, Raymond, Eugene and William, Jr.

Christian, the seventh child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, died in infancy.

George, the eighth child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, married Mabel Feeger. They have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth. Another daughter died in infancy.

Carl, the ninth child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee Niewoehner, died in infancy.

Gerhardt, the tenth child of Maria Elizabeth Kauper, nee

Niewoehner, married Helen Feeger. They have three children, Albert, Katherine and Joan. Their hom is in Dayton, Ohio.

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CATHERINA NIEWOEHNER-ARENSMAN BRANCH

Elizabeth Margaretha Niewoehner, the fourth child of John Henry Niewoehner and his wife, nee Schafer, married Henry Arensman and lived in Jeggen, near Schlederhausen and Osnabruck. This is their only child that did not come to America, due entirely to the physical condition of one of their sons. Six children were born to them in the following order:

Ellen, the oldest, married Fred Busman. They have six children. Fred, the oldest son, is married and has three children, Alma, Otto, and Herta.

Louisa Busman married William Sunderman. They have one daughter. William Busman fell on the battlefield of France during the World War.

Lena Busman married William Hartung. They have one daughter.

Minnie Busman is married and has one daughter.

August Busman is unmarried.

Marie Arensman married Fred Schafer. The have two unmarried sons.

William Arensman died, unmarried.

Fred Arensman married Wilhelmine Kanne. They have two daughters. Fred Arensman also fell on the field of honor during the World War.

Henry Arensman married Lena Vohs, deceased. They have five children, living, and two died in infancy.

Frieda, oldest daughter of Henry Arensman and his wife, nee Vohs, married William Hartman. They have one son.

William Arensman married Anna Bode. They have a son and two daughters.

Frederick Arensman is unmarried. He came to America on May 1, 1927, and is the last of the Niewoehner blood to come to this country and the only Arensman to leave Germany. He is with us today.

Twin brothers, sons of William Arensman, died in infancy.

Anna and Louise Arensman are unmarried.

Henry Arensman later married Clara Weber. They have

two children. Adolph Arensman married Emma Tieman. They have five children, Alfred, Arthur, Adolph, Otto and Ella.

FINALE

In conclusion, we believe that this compilation is the most accurate chronicle obtainable of the John Henry Niewoehner family and their descendants.

The writer wishes to acknowledge with thanks, the co-operation of the committee, John H. Niewoehner, Henry Eggert, William Niewoehner, Adam Niewoehner, Herman Pilgrim, Fred Kauper and Fred Arensman.

They furnished information, data, etc., which would have been difficult to obtain without their assistance.

We further suggest that at least one member of each branch take this chronicle as a basis to complete the history of their respective families. Thus forming a collection of statistics valuable to future generations.

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